

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-05

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, AORG, WFC

SUBJECT:POSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR--WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG ONLY FROM MAYNES

1. REGARDING YOUR PENDING APPOINTMENT WITH SAOUMA, YOU WILL RECALL THAT,DURING RECENT VISIT WASHINGTON, SYG WALDHEIM INFORMED PRESIDENT CARTER HE INTENDED EXTEND JOHN HANNAH AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC), FOR PERHAPS A YEAR. HE ALSO MENTIONED OFFERING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POST TO GARSON VOGEL, CANADA, WHO HAS BEEN ENDORSED STRONGLY BY HIS GOVERNMENT FOR THE TOP POSITION IN THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP).

2. IN TALK WITH ME FRIDAY, MARCH 11, HANNAH INDICATED SYG'S INTEREST IN EXTENDING HIM INDEFINITELY BUT MENTIONED  
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STEPPING DOWN FROM THE POSITION SOME THREE TO SIX MONTHS AFTER THE THIRD WFC SESSION (JUNE 20-24) IF MEETING IS SUCCESSFUL AND IF A REPLACEMENT IS AGREED UPON. IN THIS RESPECT, HANNAH STATED STRONGLY THAT HE THINKS HIS REPLACEMENT MUST BE AN AMERICAN.

3. SINCE DECISION ON WFC POSITION WILL IMPACT ON WFP

POSTS, AMONG OTHERS, BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS CONCERNING INTENT OF SYG RE HANNAH'S PROPOSED EXTENSION AND EVENTUAL REPLACEMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD ASK WALDHEIM SPECIFICALLY HOW HE INTENDS HANDLE HANNAH POSITION AND IF HE CONTINUES TO CONTEMPLATE OFFERING POST TO CANADIANS. LATTER WOULD GIVE US NO RPT NO PROBLEM IN LIGHT OUR OVERRIDING INTEREST IN DEPUTY POSTS IN WFP AND FAO, PROVIDED SYG AND HANNAH AGREE ON WHEN TRANSITION WOULD TAKE PLACE. ASSURE SYG WE WANT TO DO ALL WE CAN TO WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM ON THESE AND OTHER UN AGENCY POSTS.

4. FYI. IN COURSE HANNAH TALK, HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD ENCOURAGED GROUP OF 77 AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT A NEW BUREAU, I.E., PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENTS AND RAPPORTEUR FOR THE WFC. HE DID NOT CONSIDER HIS POSITION AS INCLUDED IN THE BUREAU BUT REPORTS FROM ROME INDICATE THAT AT LEAST SOME MEMBERS OF THE G-77 HAVE TARGETED HIM ALSO AND DESIRE A CLEAN SWEEP. MATTER IS CERTAIN TO COME UP DURING FAO DG SAOUMA TALKS HERE AND NEW YORK SO WE NEED TO KNOW SYG THOUGHTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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## Message Attributes

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